### PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## **PCT**

# TRANSLATION INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>RL 604 WO</b>		FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416			
International application N	o. I	International filing date (day	/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)			
PCT/EP2004/0	011516	14.10.2004		12.12.2003			
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC							
F16B21/09 F16B5/06							
Applicant							
A. RAYMOND 8	CIE						
under Article 35	and transmitted to the	applicant according to Artic		nternational Preliminary Examining Authority			
2. This REPORT co	ensists of a total of 4		_ sheets, including	this cover sheet.			
<ol><li>This report is also</li></ol>	accompanied by ANI	NEXES, comprising:					
a. (sent i	to the applicant and to	o the International Bureau) a	a total of	sheets, as follows:			
I IXI				mended and are the basis for this report and/or			
	sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).						
	sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.						
		1) 1 . 6 1:					
b (sent i	to the International Bu	ureau only) a total of (indica	te type and number	of electronic carrier(s))			
		111.6		, containing a sequence listing and/or tables			
	thereto, in computer re 802 of the Administra		ated in the Suppler	mental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see			
4. This report contain	ins indications relating	g to the following items:					
Box No. 1	I Basis of the re	eport					
Box No. 1	II Priority						
Box No. 1	III Non-establish	ment of opinion with regard	l to novelty, inventi	ve step and industrial applicability			
Box No. 1	Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention						
Box No.	Box No. V  Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement						
Box No.	Box No. VI Certain documents cited						
Box No.	Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application						
Box No.	Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application						
Date of submission of the d	lemand	Date o	of completion of this	s report			
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP			rized officer				
Facsimile No.			none No.				

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/011516

Вох	No. I	В	Basis of the report							
1.			the language, this report is based on the internation r this item.	nal application in the language in	which it was filed, unless otherwise					
			ort is based on translations from the original langua, the language of a translation furnished for the purp		,					
		inte	international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))							
		put	blication of the international application (Rule 12.4)	)						
		inte	ernational preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/	or 55.3)						
2.	recei		regard to the <b>elements</b> of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the ving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to eport):							
		the interr	national application as originally filed/furnished							
	$\boxtimes$	the descr	ription:							
		pages	1-7		as originally filed/furnished					
		pages*		received by this Authority on						
		pages*		received by this Authority on						
	$\boxtimes$	the claim	as:							
		nos.	4-7		as originally filed/furnished					
		nos.*		as amended (togethe	r with any statement) under Article 19					
		nos.*	1–3	received by this Authority on	16.02.2006 with letter of 14.02.2006					
		nos.*		received by this Authority on						
	$\boxtimes$	the drawi	ings:							
		sheets	1/3-3/3		as originally filed/furnished					
		sheets*								
		sheets*								
		a sequen	ce listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplem	ental Box Relating to Sequence L	isting.					
3.	П	_	andments have resulted in the cancellation of:	• •	•					
٠.										
			the description, pages							
			the claims, nos the drawings, sheets/figs							
			y table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):							
4.		This repo	ort has been established as if (some of) the amend e been considered to go beyond the disclosure as fil							
		the	e description, pages							
			e claims, nos.							
			e drawings, sheets/figs							
		any								
*	If ite	em 4 applie	es, some or all of those sheets may be marked "supe	erseded."						

#### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/011516

Box	No. V			ticle 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; oporting such statement	
1.	Statement				
	Novelty	(N)	Claims	1-7	YES
			Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)		Claims	1-7	YES	
			Claims		NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)		Claims	1-7	YES
			Claims		NO

- 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)
  - This report makes reference to the following documents:

D1: US 6 594 870 B1 D3: FR 2 800 833 A

- 2. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1
- 2.1 Document **D1** is considered to constitute the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1 and discloses (see column 3, lines 4-26; figure 1; the references in parentheses are to that document):
  - a device having the features of the preamble of claim 1, in which
  - the holding element ("fastener socket 15") has a plate-like zone with a rounded inner edge ("aperture 25") whose inner diameter is smaller than the outer diameter of the flanged washers, and which enclose the edges of the flanged washers.
- 2.2 Consequently, the subject matter of claim 1 differs from the known disclosure of D1 in that

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

the arms

- are angled at least in sections in relation to the direct connection line between the holding element and the outer fastening zone, and
- are set on the rounded inner edge.
- 2.3 The subject matter of claim 1 is thus **novel** (PCT Article 33(2)).
- 2.4 The technical effect of the differentiating features is that of causing the arms to lie entirely between the flanged washers, thus securing them against high tensile loads.

The present invention can therefore be considered to address the **problem** of increasing the stability of the known device.

2.5 None of the international search report citations suggests the solution proposed in claim 1 for this problem. The fastening device shown in document D3 has angled arms, but they lie entirely free (see page 2, line 29 - page 3, line 7; figures 3 and 4).

The subject matter of claim 1 thus also involves an **inventive step** (PCT Article 33(3)).

3. DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-7

Claims 2-7 are dependent on claim 1 and thus also meet the PCT novelty and inventive step requirements.